
Introduced by Senator AckermanFebruary 23, 2001

An act to amend Section 13540 of the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 847, as introduced, Ackerman. Recycled water.

Existing law prohibits any person from constructing, maintaining, or using any waste well that extends into a subterranean water-bearing stratum that is used or intended to be used as a source of water supply for domestic purposes prior to a finding by the State Department of Health Services that the proposed recharge will not impair the quality of water in the receiving aquifer that is the source of domestic water supply.

This bill would require the State Department of Health Services to make a finding that the proposed recharge into the receiving aquifer, that is a source of domestic water supply, is protective of the public health prior to allowing the recycled water to be injected into the stratum. The bill would authorize the State Department of Health Services to order abatement of any condition that it determines to pose a threat to the public health.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 13540 of the Water Code is amended to
2 read:
3 13540. No person shall construct, maintain or use any waste
4 well extending to or into a subterranean water-bearing stratum that



1 is used or intended to be used as, or is suitable for, a source of water
2 supply for domestic purposes. Notwithstanding the foregoing,
3 when a regional board finds that water quality considerations do
4 not preclude controlled recharge of such stratum by direct
5 injection, and when the State Department of Health Services,
6 following a public hearing, finds the proposed recharge ~~will not~~
7 ~~impair the quality of water in the~~ into a receiving aquifer ~~as that~~
8 is a source of water supply for domestic purposes *is protective of*
9 *the public health*, recycled water may be injected by a well into
10 such stratum. The State Department of Health Services may make
11 and enforce such regulations pertaining thereto as it deems proper
12 *and may order abatement of any condition that it determines to*
13 *pose a threat to public health*. Nothing in this section shall be
14 construed to affect the authority of the state board or regional
15 boards to prescribe and enforce requirements for such discharge.

